

Docket No.: 1029.1038

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Unknown Art Unit: Unknown
Applicant: SPINA, Umberto, et al.
Serial No.: 10/599,133
Filed September 20, 2006
For: **PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR
THE ELECTROGALVANIC COATING
OF METAL ITEMS**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 22, 2006

Sir:

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §609 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99, Applicants herewith submit form PTO-1449 (2 sheets), which lists references cited in the International Search Report (ISR) dated June 12, 2004 which Applicants are aware for the present application. An English translation for the foreign language documents (Ref. A7, A8 and A10) are not presently available. The Examiner is directed to the ISR comments concerning these documents. A copy of the ISR is attached hereto. It is noted that the Applicants have not enclosed a copy of the U.S. patent cited on form PTO-1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. While the term "references" is used in citing the documents called to the Examiner's attention herein, Applicants do not make any admission that each or all of them are "prior art" references within the meaning of the statutory and case law.

Applicants reserve the right to contend, where appropriate, that a patent asserted against any claim of the present application is not prior art under the facts and the law.

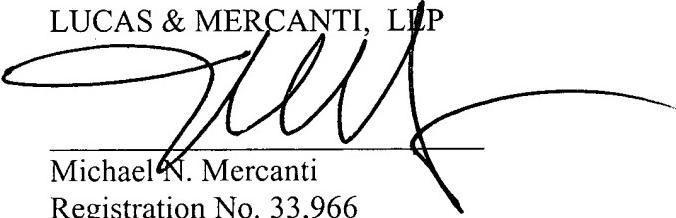
Applicants also reserve the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over the references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicants request that the Examiner independently determine those items which the Examiner would consider the most pertinent of all the references cited herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Accordingly, this document complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b). It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record.

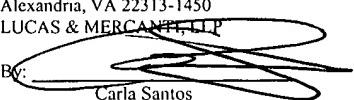
Respectfully submitted,

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP



Michael N. Mercanti
Registration No. 33,966

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP
475 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016
Phone: 212-661-8000
Fax: 212-661-8002

"Express Mail" mailing label no. <u>EV 917 804 063 US</u>
Date of Deposit <u>September 22, 2006</u>
I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP
By:  Carla Santos

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.

1029.1038

APPLICATION NO.

10/599,133

APPLICANT(S)

SPINA, Umberto, et al.

FILING DATE

September 20, 2006

GROUP ART UNIT

Unknown
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	4,392,936	07/12/1983	Stoeger, et al.			06/02/1981

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A2	199 32 524 C1	07/12/1999	DE			✓	
	A3	295,791	06/18/1927	GB				
	A4	32 30 108 A1	08/13/1982	DE			✓	
	A5	44 19 016 A1	05/31/1994	DE			✓	
	A6	31 21 397 C1	05/29/1981	DE			✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.
1029.1038

APPLICATION NO.
10/599,133

APPLICANT(S)
SPINA, Umberto, et al.

FILING DATE
September 20, 2006

GROUP ART UNIT
Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
A7	2 526 448		10/11/1983	FR				✓
A8	1 621 064		06/21/1967	DE				✓
A9	2003147593 A		05/21/2003	JP			✓	
A10	10161086		02/13/2003	DE				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.